REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough review of the present application as reflected in the Official Action mailed May 22, 2003. Applicants, however, submit that the claims are patentable over the cited references for the reasons discussed below. In particular, embodiments of the present invention utilize a "scroll" output of a pointing device, such as a scroll mouse, to control web page navigation. Thus, the output utilized to control the browsing of web pages is not merely a button press but is a particular output of a device. In certain embodiments of the present invention, the scroll output controls the "next" or "previous" hyperlinks or "buttons" of a web page. *See, e.g.*, Claims 8 and 10. In other embodiments, the scroll output is used to control the forward and back buttons of a web browser. *See e.g.*, Claim 9.

The Claims Are Patentable Over Armstrong

Claims 1-3, 9, 12-13, 14-16, 22 and 25-26 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,198,473 to Armstrong (hereinafter "Armstrong"). Official Action, p. 2. In particular, the Official Action cites to lines 54-67 of column 6, lines 1-16 of column 7 and lines 52-58 of column 23 of Armstrong as disclosing each of the recitations of independent Claim 1. Official Action, pp. 2-3. The Official Action further cites to lines 13-14 and 21-25 of column 6 of Armstrong in rejecting independent Claim 3. Corresponding rejections are made against independent Claims 14 and 16.

Claim 1 of the present application recites the following:

> 1. A method of browsing a set of linked web pages, comprising the steps of:
>
> detecting scrolling output;
> responsive to the scrolling output, determining a URL of a web page; and
> accessing the web page by a web browser.

Corresponding recitations are found in Claim 14. Applicants submit that the cited portion of Armstrong does not disclose or suggest the use of "scrolling output" as recited in Claims 1 and 14 to determine a URL of a web page and access that web page.

The cited portions of Armstrong describe multiple functions of buttons on a mouse. In particular, the cited portions of Armstrong describe the use of the buttons as either a "back" or "forward" button of a web browser or as a scroll button based on the duration of

time during which the button is pressed. *See e.g.,* Armstrong, col. 6, line 64 to col. 7, line 7. Thus, the buttons of the cited portion of Armstrong only serve to provide scrolling output if they are depressed and held down. Accordingly, Armstrong does not disclose or suggest using "scrolling output" to obtain a web page but, in fact, teaches away from using scrolling output by disclosing using a button depress to provide the forward and back browser functions even though scrolling output is also provided for other purposes. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 1 and 14 are not anticipated or suggested by Armstrong.

With regard to Claims 2 and 15, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable as depending from a patentable base claims.

Independent Claim 3 includes the following recitations:

> 3. A method for using a scroll mouse to browse a set of linked web pages, comprising the steps of:
> displaying a source page that is a member of a set of linked web pages;
> detecting scrolling output of a scroll mouse while the source page is displayed;
> determining a sense of direction of the scrolling output;
> responsive to the sense of direction, determining a URL associated with a destination page that is a member of the set of linked web pages; and
> accessing the destination web page by a web browser.

Corresponding recitations are also found in independent Claim 16. Applicants submit that Claims 3 and 16 are patentable over the cited portions of Armstrong for reasons analogous to those discussed above with reference to Claims 1 and 14. In particular, the cited portions of Armstrong do not disclose or suggest using "scrolling output" of a scroll mouse to move between web pages. As discussed above, the cited portions of Armstrong differentiate between the scrolling function and a button depress based on a duration of time during which a button is depressed. Thus, Armstrong describes the buttons as "providing a dual role," where in one role the "analog sensors" act as a "switch" and in the other role the analog sensors act as a "scroll control." Armstrong, col. 6, lines 52-59. The cited portions of Armstrong do not use the output of the scrolling function to control the forward and back of a web browser but, instead, use the "switch" output. Accordingly, the cited portions of Armstrong do not disclose or suggest each of the recitations of Claims 3 and 16 and, therefore, do not anticipate these claims.

Applicant submits that each of the dependent Claims 9, 12, 13, 22, 25 and 26 are patentable as depending from a patentable base claim.

The Claims Are Not Obvious In Light of Armstrong

Claims 8, 10-11, 21 and 23-24 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Armstrong. Applicants submit that these claims are patentable as depending from a patentable base claim. However, Applicants also submit that these claims are separately patentable over Armstrong. In particular, these claims each recite that the scroll output is used to select a URL associated with a "button of the source page." *See e.g.*, Claim 10. The Official Action appears to equate these buttons of the source page with the forward and back buttons of a web browser. Official Action, p. 5. However, these "buttons" are hyperlinks within a web page and are not part of the browser. Such is illustrated, for example, in Fig. 2 of the present application where the previous and next buttons 215 and 210 are indicated as part of a web page and the forward and back buttons 220 and 225 are indicated as part of the browser 140. *See e.g.*, Fig. 2 and page 7, line 5 of the present specification. Thus, Claims 8, 10-11, 21 and 23-24 are not merely changing the names of the forward and back buttons but actually refer to elements of a web page, not a browser. Applicants submit that the cited portions of Armstrong do not disclose or suggest using scroll output to move between URL's associated with previous and/or next buttons of a web page. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 8, 10-11, 21 and 23-24 are separately patentable for at least these additional reasons.

Claims 4 and 17 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Armstrong in combination with United States Patent No. 5,530,455 to Gillick *et al.* (hereinafter "Gillick"). Applicants submit that Claims 4 and 17 are patentable as depending from a patentable base claim. Applicants also submit that the combination of a roller wheel of Gillick with the buttons of Armstrong would not be suggested to one of skill in the art as an obvious "designer's choice." Official Action, 6. In particular, the specific portion Armstrong relied on in the Official Action describes two functions performed by the buttons: a switch function; and a scrolling function. Applicants submit that the scroll wheel of Gillick would not provide both functions and, therefore, is not properly combinable with Armstrong. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 4 and 17 are separately patentable over the cited references for at least these additional reasons.

Claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Armstrong in combination with United States Patent No. 5,530,455 to Barros (hereinafter "Barros"). Applicants submit that Claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 are patentable as depending from a patentable base claim. Applicants submit that Claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 are also separately patentable over the cited references. In particular, Applicants are not claiming merely an on-line catalog or a search result list in these claims. Applicants are claiming using scroll output to navigate through the on-line catalog or search result list. Applicants submit that the cited portions of Armstrong do not disclose or suggest navigation between pages that are linked within the web page but only discloses using the forward and back button of a web browser to navigate pages. Accordingly, Applicants submit that merely because on-line catalogs and search result web pages are known does not suggest using scroll input to navigate through the linked web pages of the on-line catalog or search result. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 5, 6, 18 and 19 are separately patentable over the cited references for at least these additional reasons.

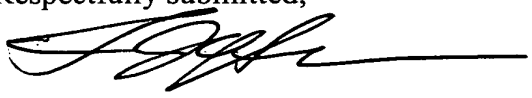
Claims 7 and 20 stand rejected as obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103 based on Armstrong in combination with United States Patent No. 5,877,766 to Bates (hereinafter "Bates"). Applicants submit that Claims 7 and 20 are patentable as depending from a patentable base claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above discussion, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

It is not believed that an extension of time and/or additional fee(s), including fees for net addition of claims-are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. In the event, however, that an extension of time is necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such an extension is hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). Any additional fees believed to be due in connection with this paper may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 09-0461.

Respectfully submitted,



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